

1 THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR

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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
9 **WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON**  
10 **AT SEATTLE**

11 ZANGO, INC. ,

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 PC TOOLS PTY, LTD.,

15 Defendant.

Case No. 07-CV-00797-JCC

**DECLARATION OF BENJAMIN G.  
EDELMAN IN SUPPORT OF  
DEFENDANT'S OPPOSITION TO  
MOTION FOR TEMPORARY  
RESTRAINING ORDER**

16 1. I, Benjamin G. Edelman, certify and declare as follows:

17 2. I make this declaration under penalty of perjury and from my own personal  
18 knowledge. I am over the age of eighteen years and competent to testify to the matters herein.  
19 The opinions set forth below are made to a reasonable degree of professional certainty.

20 3. I have been retained by defendant PC Tools as an expert in the above-captioned  
21 matter.

22 4. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of my current Curriculum  
23 Vitae.

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DECLARATION OF BENJAMIN G. EDELMAN - 1  
Case No. 07-CV-00797-JCC

**Education, Employment History and Related Experience**

5. I am an assistant professor at Harvard Business School, where my research focuses on the design of electronic marketplaces, with an emphasis on designing markets to prevent fraud.

6. I hold a Ph.D. from the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences in Economics, a J.D. from Harvard Law School, an A.M. from the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences in Statistics, and an A.B. from Harvard College in Economics.

7. I have also taken on a variety of outside consulting projects. To the extent that these projects have culminated in expert testimony, they are detailed in the section that follows, Prior Expert Testimony. Representative examples of my non-litigation consulting projects include tracking large-scale domain name registrations that infringe on the rights of others, assisting web sites blocked by China in reconfiguring their servers to be reachable to users in that country, and detecting fraudulent requests for payment of certain online advertising commissions.

8. Until January 2004, I was employed as a Student Fellow at the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard Law School. My work at the Berkman Center included original research on all aspects of the Internet's design, operation, and use, with a focus on domain names, filtering, electronic commerce, and multimedia. Between 1998 and 2001, I had operational responsibility for the Berkman Center network, including setting up and maintaining server, network and PC equipment; and designing web content, including database-generated web sites and web interfaces to database data.

9. Between 1996 and 1998, I was employed as a technical consultant at Stand for Children, a non-profit organization in Washington, DC. My responsibilities at Stand for Children included setting up server, network, and PC equipment; providing technical support; designing databases and database user interfaces; and designing web interfaces to database data.

1           **Prior Expert Testimony**

2           10.     I have been retained as a consulting expert in a number of pending and completed  
3 matters, and I have provided oral expert testimony in five matters.

4           11.     In 2000, I was asked by the National Football League to study the security  
5 systems and methods of transmission used by iCraveTV, a Canadian company retransmitting  
6 American network television content over the Internet. My work for the National Football  
7 League investigated the means of determining the geographic location of users receiving certain  
8 streaming video content as well as the nature and effectiveness of security systems restricting  
9 access to that content. My work culminated in providing oral testimony in the United States  
10 District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania in a lawsuit captioned *National Football*  
11 *League, et al., vs. TVRADIONOW Corporation, et al.*, No. CIV.A. 00-120 and 00-121, 2000 U.S.  
12 Dist. LEXIS 1013 (W.D. Pa. 2000).

13          12.     In 2000, I was asked by the American Civil Liberties Union to study the design of  
14 certain commercial Internet filtering products. My work for the ACLU investigated the  
15 capabilities and limitations of proposed methods of filtering access to certain types of Internet  
16 content. In 2002, my work culminated in qualification as an expert in the United States District  
17 Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, where I provided oral testimony in a lawsuit  
18 captioned *Multnomah County Public Library v. United States of America*, No. Civ.A. 01-1322,  
19 2002 WL 1126046 (E.D. Pa. 2002).

20          13.     In 2001, a group of media companies asked me to study software provided by The  
21 Gator Corporation. Gator software showed targeted pop-up ads according to users' web  
22 browsing activities. My work for these media companies investigated the methods of advertising  
23 display used by Gator as well as its methods of installation and targeting. I served as an expert in  
24 the lawsuit captioned *Washingtonpost.Newsweek Interactive Company, LLC, et al. v. The Gator*  
25 *Corporation*, No. Civ.A. 02-909-A (E.D. Va. 2002).

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DECLARATION OF BENJAMIN G. EDELMAN - 3  
Case No. 07-CV-00797-JCC

1           14. In 2003, Quicken Loans and Wells Fargo asked me to study software provided by  
2 WhenU.com. My work for Quicken Loans and Wells Fargo investigated the design of WhenU  
3 software, including the specific method of targeting of particular WhenU advertisements to be  
4 shown when users visit particular web sites. I served as an expert and gave oral testimony in a  
5 matter captioned *Wells Fargo & Company, et al., v. WhenU.com, Inc.*, which is reported at 293  
6 F. Supp. 2d 734 (E.D. Mich. 2003).

7           15. In 2004, the State of Utah asked me to study the method of operation of software  
8 provided by WhenU. My work included examining the means by which WhenU software  
9 identifies its location of installation, as well as methods by which WhenU could keep its software  
10 out of the state of Utah. I also studied WhenU's installation methods and the disclosures shown  
11 to users in the course of installing WhenU software. I served as an expert and gave oral  
12 testimony in the matter captioned *WhenU.com, Inc. v. The State of Utah*, Civ.No. 040907478  
13 (Ut. 2004).

14           **Zango's Software Generally**

15           16. Zango makes software that shows intrusive advertisements on users' computers,  
16 typically in the form of pop-up ads. As a user browses the web, Zango tracks what web sites the  
17 user visits and what keywords the user searches for. Zango then shows pop-up ads that cover the  
18 user's web browser, often filling the user's entire screen and preventing the display of the  
19 content the user had actually requested. Only if the user specifically closes such a pop-up can  
20 the user return to the task the user had intended. The resulting distraction and delay come at a  
21 cost to productivity: The user can't do what he intended as quickly on a computer with Zango as  
22 he could on an ordinary computer.

23           17. Zango's advertising software is not software users affirmatively seek or request.  
24 Instead, users must be induced to install Zango software through a ruse. Typically, Zango (or a  
25 Zango partner) offers a trinket some users might want, at least if the trinket came with no strings  
26 attached. But before users can access that trinket, Zango forces users to agree to receive Zango

1 pop-up ads also. The presence of Zango's pop-up ad software is almost never mentioned at the  
 2 outset of the offer (i.e. when users first notice the trinket and first begin to evaluate it). Instead,  
 3 users learn about Zango's advertising only after beginning the process of receiving the trinket.  
 4 Furthermore, as set out below, Zango's descriptions of its programs are vague at best, and in  
 5 some cases missing altogether.

#### 6 **The Effect of Zango on Users' Privacy**

7 18. Zango's software demands a substantial compromise of users' privacy. As a user  
 8 browses the web on a computer with Zango software installed, Zango transmits detailed  
 9 information to its servers about the specific web sites and web pages the user visits, and about  
 10 the specific keywords the user searches for. Each such transmission includes a user ID number  
 11 that uniquely identifies the user's computer. Each such transmission also carries detailed  
 12 information about the user's computer, including the user's IP address, which in many instances  
 13 can be linked back to a specific identifiable user.<sup>1</sup>

14 19. Zango's privacy policy<sup>2</sup> promises to limit the uses of the information Zango  
 15 collects. For example, Zango promises that it will not use a user's IP address to identify a user  
 16 personally, unless required by law. But in practice, users have no way to verify that use or non-  
 17 use. Zango could exploit users' information in a way Zango's privacy policy prohibits, and users  
 18 would have no way to know.

19 20. Even if Zango fully complies with its privacy policy, its data may nonetheless  
 20 become available to third parties in ways that concern typical users. If served with a subpoena,  
 21 Zango is likely to be able to identify the web browsing of a specific user – including specific  
 22 sites visited and specific searches conducted.<sup>3</sup> In contrast, for a user without Zango, gathering  
 23

24  
 25 <sup>1</sup> See e.g. <http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/people/edelman/pubs/icrave-012700.pdf>, ¶13

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.zango.com/destination/corporate/privacypolicy.aspx>

26 <sup>3</sup> Given a user's unique Zango ID number or the user's IP address, Zango could report browsing and searches associated with that user.

1 this information is likely to require a physical intrusion into the user's residence. Users seeking  
2 to retain their privacy are therefore unlikely to want Zango software on their computers.

### 3 **Zango's Historical Activities**

4 21. I have studied Zango software since 2003, and I have observed a wide variety of  
5 improper and controversial activities.

### 6 **Zango's Installation Methods**

7 22. Through 2005 and continuing into early 2006, Zango software was widely  
8 installed without consent. Zango paid thousands of third party "distributors" to install its  
9 software, without any bona fide investigation of the distributors' methods. For example, Zango  
10 accepted as distributors a 21-year-old hacker<sup>4</sup> from Oklahoma<sup>5</sup>, a 20-year-old California hacker  
11 who attacked Defense Department computers,<sup>6</sup> and unnamed individuals from locations as far-  
12 flung as Lebanon and Slovenia.<sup>7</sup> Zango even recruited new distributors via spam.<sup>8</sup>

13 23. Zango claims it required its distributors to obtain user consent before installing  
14 Zango software. But in practice, distributors had little incentive to seek user consent. If users  
15 were asked to accept Zango, many would refuse. In contrast, a distributor that simply installed  
16 Zango (without requesting users' permission) could get payment for installation on more  
17 computers, thereby receiving larger payments from Zango.

18 24. These practices continued for years until, in early 2006, Zango finally took action.  
19 But in the interim, tens of millions of computers became infected with Zango's software, often  
20 without users agreeing to install it. These installations came at an untold cost to users, often  
21 novices, who then had to figure out what was wrong with their computers and how to fix it.

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23  
24 <sup>4</sup> [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/02/14/AR2006021401342_pf.html)  
[dyn/content/article/2006/02/14/AR2006021401342\\_pf.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/02/14/AR2006021401342_pf.html)

25 <sup>5</sup> [http://fishbowl.pastiche.org/2006/02/19/the\\_perils\\_of\\_metadata](http://fishbowl.pastiche.org/2006/02/19/the_perils_of_metadata)

26 <sup>6</sup> [http://www.spamdailynews.com/publish/Alleged\\_zombie\\_master\\_arrested.asp](http://www.spamdailynews.com/publish/Alleged_zombie_master_arrested.asp)

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2141283/adware-makers-sues-naughty>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/spyware/180-affiliates/installation.html#email>

25. Zango software was also often installed via hidden disclosures. In many instances, users would have had to scroll past multiple pages of irrelevant text in order to learn that Zango pop-up ads would be installed too. For example, a user would be unlikely to learn that installing Kiwi Alpha installs Zango too, because that disclosure begins at page 16 of a 54-page license agreement.<sup>9</sup> If a user simply pressed “Next” without scrolling through the lengthy box, Zango software would become installed onto the user’s computer without the user fairly agreeing.

#### Zango’s Unlabeled Advertisements

26. Historically, Zango advertisements have not always carried Zango labeling. Many Zango ads included “redirects” or other computer code that eliminated ad labeling. As a result, Zango showed on-screen pop-up ads without any indication that the ads came from Zango rather than from some other source.

27. The absence of Zango labeling is particularly pernicious when users didn’t agree to install Zango in the first place. Such users face extra difficulty in finding the source of unwanted pop-ups and in making those pop-ups stop.

28. Zango claims to have stopped unlabeled pop-ups. But technology research group the Center for Democracy and Technology (CDT) in 2006 observed 39 distinct unlabeled Zango ads.<sup>10</sup> I too have seen unlabeled Zango ads as recently as November 2006.<sup>11</sup>

#### Zango’s Use of Randomized Product Names, Folders, and Filenames

29. Zango software has used a series of different names, including n-Case, 180search Assistant, Zango, and Seekmo. All these programs share a common core function – tracking users’ online activities, and showing pop-up ads. Furthermore, these programs also share a common method of communications with Zango servers. Yet these programs have used multiple distinct names. The repeated name changes serve to confuse consumers – preventing consumers

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/spyware/180-affiliates/installation.html#license>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.ftc.gov/os/comments/zango/zango/index.php>

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/news/112006-1.html#h>

1 from associating a new Zango product name with the prior bad practices consumers had  
2 previously come to distrust.

3 30. Zango software has also used a wide variety of filenames, including randomly-  
4 named and arbitrarily-named files that hinder users' efforts to identify and remove Zango  
5 software. For example, Zango programs have used files named 180ax\*, 180sa.\*, msbb.\* saap.\*,  
6 sain.\*, salm.\*, and sau.\*.

7 31. Zango has placed its files in a wide variety of locations on users' computers.  
8 Zango has placed its files in c:\, c:\Windows, c:\Windows\System, c:\Windows\System32,  
9 c:\Temp, and even within various subfolders of c:\Documents and Settings\[username]. These  
10 many placements are contrary to Windows standards, which instead call for placement within a  
11 single clearly-named subfolder of c:\Program Files. The effect of these arbitrary placements is to  
12 further hinder users' efforts to identify and remove Zango software.

### 13 Response to Zango's Historical Activities

14 32. Zango's various bad acts have triggered massive user complaints. A Google  
15 search for "Zango" yields two different ads for spyware removers – companies that know that  
16 users searching for "Zango" are likely to need assistance removing spyware from their  
17 computers. Furthermore, a Google search for "zango spyware" yields more than 200,000  
18 different results – many of them consumer complaints about Zango's practices.

19 33. Zango has also faced attention from regulators. After a lengthy investigation by  
20 the FTC, Zango entered into a settlement that required widespread changes to Zango's business  
21 practices – including ceasing nonconsensual installations onto users' computers, as well as  
22 paying a \$3 million fine.<sup>12</sup> The FTC's complaint specifically alleged that Zango had deceptively  
23 failed to adequately disclose its software, that Zango had unfairly installed adware, and that  
24 Zango had unfairly failed to provide a reasonable means to remove its software.<sup>13</sup>

25  
26 <sup>12</sup> <http://www.ftc.gov/os/caselist/0523130/index.shtm>

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.ftc.gov/os/caselist/0523130/0523130cmp061103.pdf>, page 4



1           **Zango's Recent Activities**

2           **Zango Continues to Violate Its Settlement with the FTC**

3           34.     Zango claims to be in compliance with its recent settlement with the FTC. But in  
4 my testing, I have uncovered widespread violations of that settlement. My November 2006 "Bad  
5 Practices Continue at Zango, Notwithstanding Proposed FTC Settlement and Zango's Claims"  
6 details some of these violations.<sup>14</sup>

7           35.     The FTC settlement requires Zango to label its ads.<sup>15</sup> But in fact Zango widely  
8 shows in-toolbar ads without any labeling whatsoever.<sup>16</sup> This is a simple, direct, and widespread  
9 violation of Zango's settlement obligations. As explained in paragraph 28, Zango also continues  
10 to show some unlabeled pop-up ads.

11          36.     The FTC settlement further requires Zango to install its software only with  
12 "express consent," including "clear and prominent" disclosure of the material terms of Zango's  
13 software.<sup>17</sup> I have specifically documented counterexamples showing Zango software still  
14 violating these obligations.<sup>18</sup> I continue to find more such examples. For example, in testing of  
15 April 28, 2007, I downloaded a program that claimed to be a free media converter. After I  
16 scrolled past more than *sixty* on-screen pages of dense license agreement text, I finally learned  
17 that this media converter would install Zango software too. Such an obscure disclosure cannot  
18 satisfy the FTC's requirement of "clear and prominent" notice.

19           **Zango Installers Still Fall Short of Informed Consent**

20          37.     Zango's recent installations continue to rely on misleading descriptions of  
21 Zango's software. In November 2006 testing, I found that Zango described its software as  
22 "display[ing] several ads per day."<sup>19</sup> This description fails to mention that Zango's ads appear in  
23

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24           <sup>14</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/news/112006-1.html>

25           <sup>15</sup> <http://www.ftc.gov/os/caselist/0523130/0523130agree061103.pdf>, page 7

26           <sup>16</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/news/112006-1.html#h>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.ftc.gov/os/caselist/0523130/0523130agree061103.pdf>, pages 3 and 5

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/news/112006-1.html>

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/spyware/images/zango-nov06/sexybabesx-111606.png>

1 pop-ups, a format users are known to strongly dislike.<sup>20</sup> Alluding to the privacy effects of  
 2 Zango's software, Zango describes its ads as "based upon keywords from your Internet  
 3 browsing." But this disclosures glosses over Zango's true privacy consequences, as set out in  
 4 paragraphs 18 to 20, i.e. tracking each user's specific searches and site visits. The omitted  
 5 characteristics are material, in that reasonable users would want to consider these facts when  
 6 evaluating Zango's offer. Yet Zango nonetheless omits these facts when asking users to install.

7 38. Zango attaches a declaration from Richard Purcell, who opines that "users who  
 8 download Zango products are provided explicit notice about the program's capabilities and  
 9 features."<sup>21</sup> But Purcell misunderstands Zango's obligations under the FTC settlement. The  
 10 FTC settlement does not merely call for disclosure of the "capabilities and features" (i.e.  
 11 benefits) of Zango's software. Rather, the FTC demands disclosure of *all material effects*<sup>22</sup> –  
 12 crucially including *detriments*. It is in disclosing the software's detriments that Zango falls short  
 13 – in many instances failing to prominently disclose that Zango's ads appear in much-hated pop-  
 14 ups, and failing to disclose the privacy consequences of installing Zango software, even though  
 15 these are material effects reasonable users would want to know about.

16 39. Zango also continues to use misleading installations predicated on  
 17 misrepresentations of Zango's purpose. Zango widely solicits installation via ads promising to  
 18 "stop junk emails" – a function wholly unrelated to Zango's display of pop-up ads. Furthermore,  
 19 some Zango ads show a "fake user interface" design – falsely suggesting that the ads are  
 20 messages from software already installed on a user's computer, when in fact the ads are merely  
 21 solicitations unrelated to any program a user already runs.

22 40. Zango continues to solicit installations through advertisements shown through  
 23 other vendors' spyware. For example, in November 2006 I observed Fullcontext spyware  
 24

25 <sup>20</sup> See e.g. <http://www.itfacts.biz/index.php?id=P2176>

26 <sup>21</sup> Purcell declaration at ¶8

<sup>22</sup> <http://www.ftc.gov/os/caselist/0523130/0523130agree061103.pdf>, page 3

1 injecting a banner ad for Zango into the top of the Google site.<sup>23</sup> Fullcontext spyware placed an  
 2 ad above the logo, in a place where Google does not sell advertising to any company at any  
 3 price. But using Fullcontext spyware, the Google home page showed an ad for Zango – without  
 4 Google’s permission.

5 41. Zango claims that on January 1, 2006, it ceased all nonconsensual installations.<sup>24</sup>  
 6 But I personally observed Zango installing without consent on February 17, 2006. I even posted  
 7 video proof of my observation,<sup>25</sup> and Zango itself conceded that nonconsensual installations  
 8 occurred.<sup>26</sup> My personal first-hand observation directly contradicts Zango’s puzzling claim that  
 9 “Zango can be certain ... that all users who have installed Zango’s applications or products since  
 10 January 1, 2006 have done so consensually”<sup>27</sup> – in that my video specifically shows a post-  
 11 January-2006 Zango installation without user consent.

#### 12 Zango Still Falls Short of Transparent Operation

13 42. Zango continues to operate in ways that are contrary to the reasonable  
 14 expectations of typical users – including showing ads not attributed to Zango, and tracking and  
 15 transmitting information unnecessarily and through hidden programs.

16 43. Zango continues to harm users’ privacy and information security as set out in  
 17 paragraphs 18 to 20, above.

18 44. Zango continues to show unlabeled in-toolbar ads, as set out in paragraph 35,  
 19 above. I and others have recently observed further unlabeled Zango pop-up ads, as set out in  
 20 paragraph 28.

21 45. The Zango toolbar tracks and transmits users’ searches and site visits even when  
 22 toolbar is disabled. Even if a user invokes Internet Explorer’s View-Toolbars function to disable

23 <sup>23</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/news/112006-1.html#g>

24 <sup>24</sup> TRO Motion, page 4

25 <sup>25</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/news/022006-1.html>

26 <sup>26</sup> <http://blog.180solutions.com/PermaLink,guid,b0fc12f9-e1f0-4a7a-998f-0b2f11d1fafd.aspx>

<sup>27</sup> TRO Motion, page 4

1 Zango's toolbar, Zango's toolbar continues to transmit detailed information to its servers about  
 2 users' browsing. These transmissions provide users with no benefit whatsoever, but they intrude  
 3 on users' privacy

#### 4 Zango Ads Continue to Defraud Internet Advertisers

5 46. Zango continues to defraud Internet advertisers by claiming commission  
 6 improperly through their "cost per action" (CPA) advertising programs. For example, in  
 7 "Spyware Still Cheating Merchants and Legitimate Affiliates," I showed Zango and its advertiser  
 8 partners attempting to claim commission from Netflix when users specifically and directly  
 9 requested the Netflix site.<sup>28</sup> Since users specifically requested, Netflix ought not have to pay  
 10 commission for any resulting purchases. But Zango and its ads seek to receive commission from  
 11 Netflix, as if the user's purchase was the result of Zango's promotional efforts.

12 47. I have also observed Zango ads performing click fraud through leading pay-per-  
 13 click ad networks. For example, in "The Spyware - Click-Fraud Connection -- and Yahoo's Role  
 14 Revisited," I showed Zango ads performing click fraud against Yahoo's pay-per-click ad  
 15 network.<sup>29</sup> Yahoo's advertisers are only supposed to have to pay Yahoo a fee when users  
 16 actually *click* on a pay-per-click ad. But because Zango and its advertiser partners perform click  
 17 fraud, advertisers have to pay even if users don't click.

#### 18 PC Tools' Current Detection of Zango Software

19 48. I have conducted tests to determine how PC Tools Starter Edition currently  
 20 classifies Zango software and what action PC Tools Starter Edition takes upon finding Zango on  
 21 a test PC.

22 49. To conduct these tests, I prepared a test PC (virtual machine) in my office. This  
 23 PC had never before run either Zango or any PC Tools software. In testing of May 30, 2007, I  
 24 installed Zango software, then downloaded the Google Pack which came with a copy of PC  
 25

26 <sup>28</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/news/052107-1.html>

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.benedelman.org/news/040406-1.html>

1 Tools Starter Edition. I ran a default scan, and PC Tools ultimately detected Zango. The  
 2 detection was labeled "Threat level: Info." PC Tools did not automatically remove Zango. After  
 3 the PC Tools scan was complete, I tested the Zango software and confirmed that it was still  
 4 operational.

5 50. Based on this test, I cannot agree with Zango's claim that "the version of Spyware  
 6 Doctor that is on the Google website continues to damage and delete Zango products without  
 7 user consent."<sup>30</sup> To the contrary, Spyware Doctor removes Zango only if users so instruct.

### 8 **Characterizations of Zango's Software**

9 51. In my view, the label "spyware" is an appropriate characterization of Zango's  
 10 software. As set out in paragraphs 22 to 24, Zango software has been widely installed onto  
 11 users' computers without user consent. As set out in paragraphs 18 to 20, Zango software  
 12 transmits detailed information about users' browsing and searching. The combination of these  
 13 two characteristics is correctly characterized as "spyware" – tracking users' activities, and doing  
 14 so without users' consent.

15 52. The label "spyware" remains appropriate even though Zango has recently ceased  
 16 nonconsensual installations. For one, the label is appropriate as to prior installations, some of  
 17 which may still be present on some users' computers. Second, as set out in paragraph 37,  
 18 Zango's current installations are misleading and fail to convey key details users need to know in  
 19 order to evaluate Zango's offer. Finally, the term "spyware" has become a generic catch-all for  
 20 software installed on users' computers, taking action to users' detriment (e.g. by tracking  
 21 browsing or showing ads), no matter how such software is installed.<sup>31</sup>

22 53. In my view, the label "malicious" is an appropriate characterization of all of  
 23 Zango's software. As set out in paragraphs 46 and 47, Zango's software defrauds Internet  
 24

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25 <sup>30</sup> TRO Motion, page 7

26 <sup>31</sup> See e.g. the much-cited definition of "spyware (and other potentially unwanted technologies)" offered by the Anti-Spyware Coalition.  
<http://www.antispywarecoalition.org/documents/DefinitionsJune292006.htm>

1 advertisers by claiming commissions and payments to which Zango and its advertisers have no  
 2 valid right. Such improper claims are the essence of fraud, and these actions are malicious even  
 3 when advertisers fail to take action to protect themselves. Secondly, as set out in paragraph  
 4 37, Zango has systematically failed to describe its software using the key terms (e.g. “pop-up  
 5 ads”) necessary for users to fully and quickly understand the effects of installing Zango. This  
 6 mischaracterization occurs to Zango’s benefit but to users’ detriment – entirely consistent with  
 7 the conclusion that Zango’s actions are malicious.

8 54. In my view, the label “infection” is an appropriate characterization of Zango’s  
 9 software. The term “infection” is generally used in the computer security industry to describe  
 10 programs that enter users’ computers without users’ informed consent, and that have effects  
 11 reasonable users would not approve.<sup>32</sup> These characteristics match Zango’s behavior.  
 12 Furthermore, other security software widely uses the term “infection” to describe detected  
 13 programs – even programs that lack Zango’s history of nonconsensual installations.<sup>33</sup>

#### 14 **Similarities and Differences between Seekmo and Other Zango Software**

15 55. Zango’s Seekmo product is substantially the same as Zango’s other software –  
 16 identical in its display of pop-up ads and in its tracking of user activities. But while I have seen  
 17 Zango installed without consent, I have never seen such installation of Seekmo. And although I  
 18 have widely seen Zango promoted through other vendors’ spyware, such promotion is less  
 19 widespread as to Seekmo. Thus, Seekmo users are somewhat more likely than other Zango users  
 20 to have received a meaningful opportunity to evaluate the Seekmo software and grant or deny  
 21 consent for it to install.

22 56. In my testing, Zango’s four current programs (Zango, Seekmo, Hotbar, and Spam  
 23 Blocker) all share a variety of components. That is, a user who installs Zango and a user who

24  
 25 <sup>32</sup> See e.g. <http://www.webroot.com/resources/spywareinfo/infection.html>,  
 26 <http://antivirus.about.com/od/securitytips/a/removespyware.htm>,  
<http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1759,1771220,00.asp>

<sup>33</sup> See e.g. <http://www.webroot.com/company/pressroom/pr/state-of-spyware-Q206.html>

1 installs Seekmo each receive certain files and registry entries that are common to both  
 2 installations. Because these components come with both programs, there is no clear way to  
 3 know whether a given component arrived through Zango or instead through Seekmo, Hotbar, or  
 4 Spam Blocker. As a result, it is difficult for a security vendor or outside analyst to classify these  
 5 components as belonging to one specific Zango program rather than to several or all of them.

6 57. The inevitable result of Zango's decision to share components across programs is  
 7 that security software detects some components as one Zango program, and other components as  
 8 another. To the extent that security software treats different Zango programs differently, e.g. as  
 9 a result of different prior practices previously observed, the associated components will also be  
 10 treated differently. To correct this problem, Zango need only make each components unique to a  
 11 particular single program.

#### 12 **Implications of This Case for Consumers and The Computer Security Industry**

13 58. Spyware is a substantial harm to typical consumer users. The National Cyber  
 14 Security Alliance estimates that 61% of home computers are infected with at least one spyware  
 15 program.<sup>34</sup> If repair costs even a few dollars of users' time (not to mention the cost of  
 16 specialized hardware or professional assistance), the resulting cost to the economy reaches  
 17 hundreds of millions of dollars.

18 59. Typical users have great difficulty removing spyware from their computers. Anti-  
 19 spyware software provides crucial assistance to keeping users' computers operational and  
 20 reliable. Anti-spyware software therefore serves an important public function. Just as courts are  
 21 rightly deferential to the editorial recommendations of *Consumer Reports*, courts should hesitate  
 22 to interfere with the operations of anti-spyware software.

23 60. Zango is part of the spyware problem. Webroot's December 2006 report found  
 24 Zango to be the most prevalent of all "adware"-type spyware threats.<sup>35</sup> Sunbelt's current "Real  
 25

26 <sup>34</sup> [http://www.staysafeonline.info/pdf/safety\\_study\\_2005.pdf](http://www.staysafeonline.info/pdf/safety_study_2005.pdf)

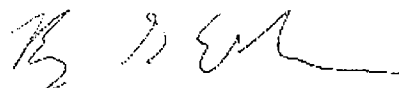
<sup>35</sup> <http://www.webroot.com/resources/spywareinfo/topthreats-december06.html>



1 time Spyware Threats” listing lists Zango’s Hotbar and Zango Toolbar among the “top 10  
 2 spyware threats ... for the past week.”<sup>36</sup> Zango’s use of thousands of distributors, without  
 3 rigorous oversight or control, pumped millions of dollars into the spyware ecosystem – damaging  
 4 tens of millions of computers in the process.

5 61. Zango’s repeated promises of reform demonstrate why security providers should  
 6 consider a software vendor’s history when evaluating the vendor’s promises and claims of  
 7 reform. Zango seems to take the position that, having purportedly addressed at least the most  
 8 egregious of its prior bad acts, it now can no longer be classified with an eye towards its prior  
 9 behavior. But some of Zango’s tens of millions of old installations – including prior  
 10 nonconsensual installations – still remain to be cleaned off of users’ computers. More generally,  
 11 Zango’s accumulated reputation is an appropriate factor to consider when evaluating whether  
 12 reasonable users would want Zango on their computers. Reputation is particularly important  
 13 when evaluating whether Zango can be trusted to comply with its privacy policy and to  
 14 otherwise act as a trustworthy steward of the information it receives. Zango’s sordid past  
 15 provides ample basis to doubt the company’s behavior going forward. Any reasonable security  
 16 expert would consider this information in reaching a conclusion as to the desirability of Zango’s  
 17 software. In my view, PC Tools ought to be free to consider this information too.

18 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this  
 19 declaration was executed on May 31, 2007, at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

20  
 21 

22 Benjamin G. Edelman, Ph.D., J.D., M.A.

23  
 24  
 25  
 26 <sup>36</sup> <http://research.sunbelt-software.com/Default.aspx>



**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on May 31, 2007, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the following persons:

- **Michael Rosenberger**  
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- **Tarek F M Saad**  
tfsaad@hollandhart.com

DATED: May 31, 2007 at Seattle, Washington.

/s/  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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DECLARATION OF BENJAMIN G. EDELMAN - 17  
Case No. 07-CV-00797-JCC

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## Benjamin G. Edelman

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(617) 379-0820

### Experience

Assistant professor, Harvard Business School. Negotiations, Organizations & Markets unit. (April 2007 – present)

Fields: Industrial organization, market design, information economics.

Research interests: Electronic markets. Internet advertising, reputation, and fraud. Automated data collection.

Anticipated teaching: Market design, negotiation.

Independent consultant and expert witness (November 1999 – present)

Conducted quantitative analyses and empirical testing for a variety of clients including the American Civil Liberties Union, National Association of Broadcasters, National Football League, New York Times, and Washington Post on topics including online advertising, marketing fraud, spyware, spam, pay-per-click advertising and click fraud, Internet filtering, geolocation and targeting, privacy, security, automated data collection, and user interface design. Qualified as an expert in Federal court on multiple occasions, and provided oral testimony under direct and cross examination.

Student Fellow / Technology Analyst, Berkman Center for Internet & Society (May 1998 – January 2004)

Conducted empirical studies of the Internet's domain name system, peer-to-peer filesharing, spyware/adware, content filtering by network intermediaries. Developed software systems for interactive real-time communication among class/meeting participants. Designed and operated system for webcast of and remote participation in numerous Berkman Center, Harvard Law School, and Cambridge community events as well as twelve ICANN public meetings.

### Education

Harvard Graduate School of Arts & Sciences - Ph.D., Economics, 2007.

Dissertation: "Topics in Internet Advertising"

Advisors: Ariel Pakes, Alvin Roth, David Parkes.

Harvard Law School - J.D., 2005.

Harvard Graduate School of Arts & Sciences - A.M., Statistics, 2002.

Harvard College - A.B., Economics, *summa cum laude*, 2002; Phi Beta Kappa.

Woodrow Wilson Senior High School - Washington, DC: 1998; valedictorian.

### Representative Research

Internet Advertising and the Generalized Second Price Auction (*American Economic Review*, March 2007)

with Michael Ostrovsky and Michael Schwarz

Strategic Bidder Behavior in Sponsored Search Auctions (*Decision Support Systems*, February 2007) with Michael Ostrovsky

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Optimal Contracting when Judgment-Proof Agents Are Paid in Arrears (forthcoming)

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EXHIBIT  
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 Documentation of Internet Filtering Worldwide (2002-2003) with Jonathan Zittrain [cyber.law.harvard.edu/filtering](http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/filtering)  
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### **Programming Experience**

Microsoft Visual Basic (14+ years experience), VB.NET, VBA, VBS, ASP, ADO, OLEDB

Mathworks MatLab

Stata

SPlus / R

Python

PHP

### **Recent Awards**

Harvard University Graduate Economics Fellowship (2003-2006)

John M. Olin Fellowship in Law and Economics (2003-2004, 2004-2005)

Hoopes Prize for Undergraduate Research (2002)

Seymour and Ruth Harris Prize for Best Honors Thesis in Economics (2002)

John Harvard Scholarship, Harvard College (1998-1999, 1999-2000, 2000-2001)

Rank I Honors, Harvard College (1998-1999, 1999-2000, 2000-2001)

Phi Beta Kappa, Harvard College (2001)

Undergraduate Honors Research Scholarship, Department of Economics, Harvard College (2001)

Detur Prize, Harvard College (1999)

### **Expert Testimony**

District Court, Third Judicial District of Utah (2004)

US Federal Court, Eastern District of Michigan (2003)

US House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary (2003)

US Federal Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania (2002)

US Federal Court, Western District of Pennsylvania (2000)

### **Academic Service**

Referee: *American Economic Review*, *Journal of Applied Economics*, Sponsored Search Workshop, Workshop on the Economics of Information Security, Workshop on the Economics of Securing the Information Infrastructure

Program Committee: Workshop on the Economics of Securing the Information Infrastructure (2006), Sponsored Search Workshop (2007)

Non-resident tutor, Cabot House – academic and thesis advising (2004-2007)